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What's New in Specialized Surgical Drapes

From increased antimicrobial protection to larger, smaller or better-adhered drapes, here's an overview of some new choices.

Judith Lee, Contributing Editor judithlee@epix.net



Antimicrobial

Incise drapes are nothing new, but now there's another choice from Medical Concepts
Development. The ACTI-Gard Antimicrobial Incise
Drape is an iodine-based product that comes in five sizes, for procedures such as cardiovascular, neuro, orthopedic or general. A patient isolation drape and a cesarean pouch, both with ACTI-Gard incise, are

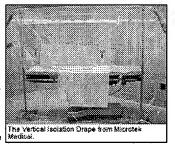
also available. ACTI-Gard's stable iodine complex remains effective during long procedures (tested up to six hours), according to the company. Its conformable film and aggressive adhesive offer enhanced skin adhesion during long procedures and ones with high fluid volume. This incise drape will cost 30 percent more than a comparable drape without antimicrobial properties, says the company.

3M Incise Drapes have been around for 25 years. Beginning with the clear incise, then offering an antimicrobial incise drape, 3M continues to deliver product enhancements with a poly liner, making application of the drape easier for surgical teams. The 3M loban 2 Antimicrobial Incise Drapes are available in four sizes, making them useful for a many surgical procedures. These iodine-based incise drapes provide long-lasting antimicrobial protection at the incision site, says 3M.

ISODrape Surgical Film Drapes from Microtek offer long-lasting antimicrobial protection with Microban (see "What Is Microban?" on page 107), which is permanently built in throughout the drape film. This product is available now but will be formally launched later in 2003. ISODrape is made of an impervious, embossed medical film. The drape's improved transparency offers an unobstructed view of pre-surgical markings, and its adhesive side allows for easy application. The product is latex- and iodine-free.

Orthopedics

Bohn Extremity Drapes from Biomet, used for such procedures as knees, hips and shoulders, are the largest extremity drapes on the market. This product will drape off the largest patient without the use of a half or three-quarter sheet, says Biomet. Although the drape is not new, it now includes two pre-attached incise drapes, above and below the fenestration. This feature encases the limb with antimicrobial protection from Microban and includes a clear poly screen to protect the anesthesiologist from fluids. Two instrument pockets can be attached anywhere on the drape. The drape comes wrapped in a back table cover, creating a sterile field when you open it. The drape costs about 10 percent more than competing extremity drapes, but the manufacturer points out that its features eliminate six or seven additional cost items.



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Redi-Drape Vertical Isolation Drape, also from Biomet, is a wall drape for hip fractures. It also has a built-in Microban incise drape. This clear poly drape is hung from IV poles, and lets the surgeon view the patient, C-arm image intensifier and TV monitor while remaining in the sterile field, according to the company.

Microtek also offers a Vertical Isolation Drape for hip fractures, with and without viewing windows. These drapes offer Microban antimicrobial protection. The product is latex- and iodine-free.

Article continues on next page...

o Charles and Application

Contact Ms. Lee at judithlee@epix.net.

Drapes

Look for surgical drapes that

Resist penetration by blood and other body fluids,

Resist penetration by blood and other body fluids,

Maintain their integrity and are durable.

Are made of a material that can be sterilized;

Resist combustion.

Are comfortable and contribute to maintaining the [patient's] body temperature;

Have a favorable cost-benefit ratio

SOURCE: ADRN's Proposed Recommended Practice for Selection and Use of Surgical Govern and Diages.

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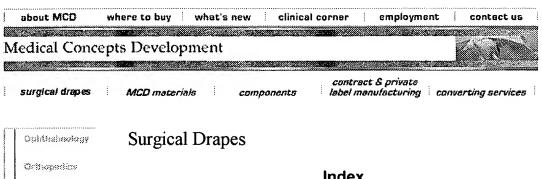
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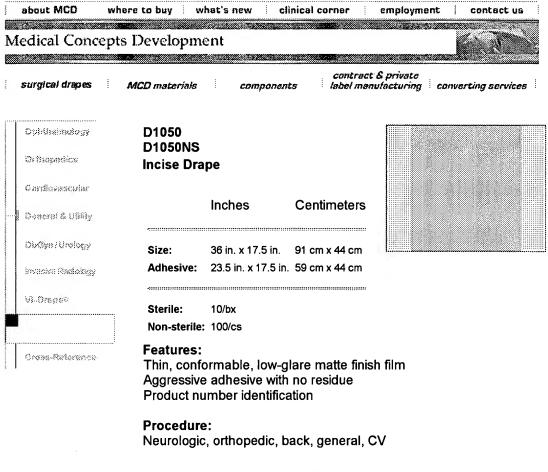
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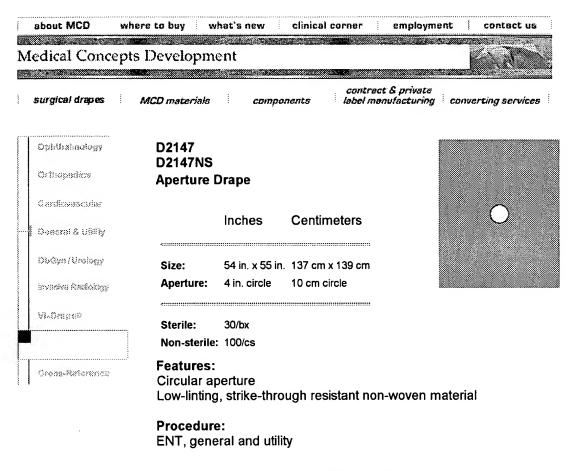


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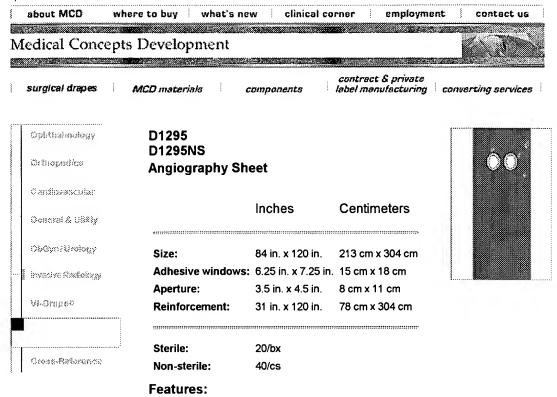


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